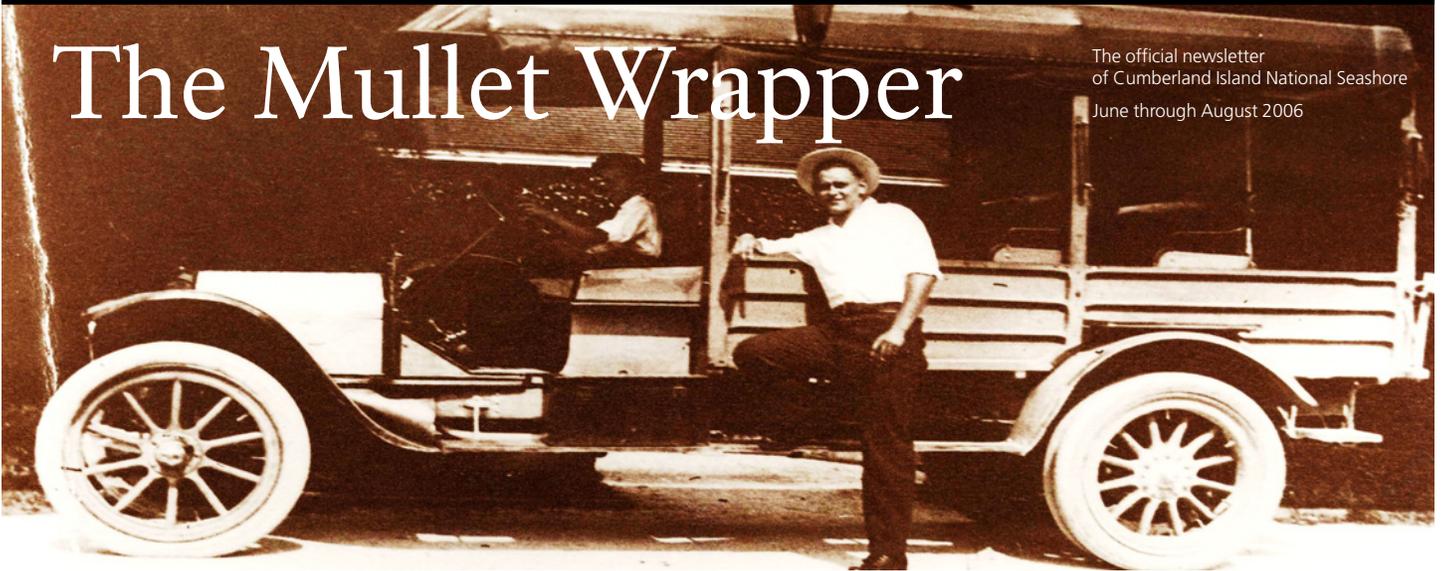




# The Mullet Wrapper

The official newsletter  
of Cumberland Island National Seashore  
June through August 2006



"Plum Orchard Truck", July 1912, NPS Photo

## Letter from the Superintendent

We are currently engaged in the public scoping phase of our Transportation Management Plan/Environmental Assessment, which was required by Public Law 108-447 that contained The Cumberland Island Wilderness Adjustment Act of 2004. We have received over 2500 comments thus far, indicating a high degree of interest in the plan. The public comments will assist us in developing a draft Transportation Plan/Environmental Assessment for which we will hold public meetings, and again ask the public for comments. The planning team will review the comments and revise the draft plan accordingly.

The plan will describe how transportation will be managed over the next decade. It will establish guidelines for identifying, regulating, and minimizing the effects that transportation services have on park resources. The plan will be flexible so that we can respond to changing conditions. This will enable us to ensure a quality visitor experience while protecting the island's great resources.

The level of services authorized will be evaluated as data is collected during monitoring including:

- Assessing fulfillment of resource protection objectives;

- Evaluating the demand for services associated with transportation activities;
- Assessing whether the expected benefits are obtained.

### Possible adjustments include:

- Adjusting the number of trips;
- Changing the locations where the trips begin and end;
- Changing the routes.

This process will be conducted in accordance with National Park Service Management Policies, The National Environmental Policy Act, and other pertinent laws and regulations. There is a lot of speculation and misinformation circulating in the public domain regarding this effort. I would ask that everyone associated with the park strive to ensure factual information is made available to the public as they ask questions during this effort to preserve Cumberland Island's valuable resources while providing a quality experience for our visitors.



Jerre Brumbelow  
Superintendent

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# FIRE!!!

On Thursday, August 3, 2006, at around 3:50pm park personnel aboard the Cumberland Lady reported smoke at the south end of the island near Beach Creek. Park Rangers Eric Ulitalo and Rene Noe went by boat into Beach Creek and they observed fire, smoke columns and trees crowning. They had assessed the flame length and height by 4:15pm and determined that the fire had natural boundaries and was no threat to any structures or life.

Chief Ranger Dennis Parsons began IA [initial attack] contacts with the following cooperators: Camden County, Georgia Forestry Commission, Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Upon arrival of ICT4 Russ Langford of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Cumberland Island personnel flew over the fire and said that approximately 5 to 10 acres were believed to be within the perimeter of the fire.

The initial attack operation consisted of a few buckets dropped by a helicopter and ICT4 Fire Crew of nine constructing a line. Extended attack began early Friday morning with interagency fire personnel. By 3pm, a fire line had been completed and ICT4 James Armstrong [GFC] declared fire contained; with hot spots and small flames burning in the black, previous burned area. However, overnight the fire escaped the line with flame.

The Beach Creek Fire, as it is called, was due to two carry over lightning strikes. Due to the continuation of draught conditions, extremely dry conditions, and various vegetation burned. The fire then began being monited and mopped-up by ICT4 Wayne Herrin, United States Forest Service, from

Chattahoochee National Forest and two FFTR [fire-fighter], CUIS employee Eric Ulitalo, and USFS Lynn Smith. Significant amount of rainfall was the source to put the Beach Creek fire out and then declare the fire controlled. Beach Creek remained active, with some smoldering smoke still smoking and hot. Resource Manager John Fry and Wildlife Biologist Doug Hoffman began a picture photo project to monitor vegetation recovery and noted a smoke in one well burned tree. The fire as of August 30, was declared out. Cumberland Island would like to thank all the agency and county cooperators for their support of resources and Cumberland Island employees, Jerre Brumbelow, Fred Forbes, Doug Hoffman, John Fry, Eric Ulitalo, Dennis Parsons, Brian Wentworth, Debbie Britt, Larry Pilcher, Julie Meeks, Pauline Wentworth, the Turtle Techs Lisa and Krista, and Rene Noe for their help and support of logistics and operations for the Beach Creek Fire 2006.



Vegetation burns at Beach Creek



County and Park firefighters alike pause to recharge

A total of 15.5 acres were burned in all. The approximately 1,000 gallons of water pumped on the fire were essential. Please rain, our drought conditions continue with just trace amounts of rainfall and the hit or miss showers and thunderstorms, and drying wind conditions affecting the temperature and relative humidity.

-Information submitted by:  
Rene Noe



# Ranger DIVISION

The rangers have been very busy on the island this summer. As you may or may not know rangers are trained to handle many types of incidents including, law enforcement, emergency medical, search and rescue, wildland and structural fires, as well as visitor services.

This summer rangers have seen them all. The saddest incident was the double drowning at Sea Camp Beach on June 24, 2006. Two young men were pulled from the water, park employees immediately



Ranger Eric Ulitalo checks with these fisherman for proper liscensing.

thoughts go out to the families.

I would like to thank park employees Eric Ulitalo, George Lewis, Gladwyn Ulitalo, Rene Noe, and Charlene Keeney for their extraordinary performance in the handling of this situation. The park and all its visitors should rest assured that whatever situation they may find themselves in it will be handled with a high level of expertise and professionalism.

## Training Sessions Keep Skills Sharp

Several "tail gate" sessions were held this spring and summer including the monthly fire training with the Camden FD engine and crew and



Ranger George Lewis checks visitors in as they arrive on the island.

EMS training at the Capt's House. Two scenario based training sessions were also conducted. The first scenario combined EMS, fire, SAR and law enforcement. Island residents, SCA's, YCC and park personal all participated. The second scenario had Trauma One helicopter from Shands Hospital in Jacksonville, FL demonstrating a helo response to two "trauma" patients on the island.

*The first scenario:* YCC students were painting the exterior of the research building when an explosion occurred inside starting the building on fire. Park employees and island residents responded to the scene. The Camden FD engine and crew (comprised of park staff and island residents) responded and began pumping water onto the building. A triage was established to evaluate, provide care and transport the injured. Law enforcement personal controlled the scene and began a search for a missing YCC student.

*The second scenario:* Trauma One emergency helicopter landed behind the Dungeness Ruins. Dungeness is one of several landing zones on the island, others are Stafford Field and High Point Both Trauma One and Life Flight have the latitude and longitude for these landing zones (LZ). While on the ground Trauma One personnel met park First Responders and gave an orientation on their procedures.

After the scenario a debriefing was held to critique everyone's performance and see how we can improve. Training such as these are invaluable on several levels. First everyone becomes more efficient with their skills and equipment. Second using and maintaining emergency equipment insures it is in good working condition. And lastly, one of the most important aspects of emergency training is working with the people who will be responding with you, for example, meeting personnel from other agencies such as the helicopter crew. Knowing who will step out of the helicopter and what they expect makes for a much smoother transfer of the patient. To become as efficient and effective as possible during an actual incident everyone must work as a team. Many thanks to the division chiefs for permitting their staff members to attend these training sessions.



Cumberland Island Fire Vehicles

-Dennis Parsons  
Chief Ranger

# New Faces!

## Gary Head

Gary recently joined the Cumberland Island National Seashore team as its new Budget Technician. He comes to the National Park Service from the Naval Submarine Base in Kings Bay GA, where he served as the Financial and Inventory Management Specialist Supervisor and retired after 24 years of active service. While assigned to the afloat units he was responsible for managing 36 Supply Department personnel, financial management of the operating budget, as well as the inventory management, control and accountability of the

70 million dollar repair parts inventory. He moved to Kingsland GA in 1997 with his beautiful family Bridget, Daniel, and Kevin, when he was assigned as the Assistant Resident Officer in Charge of the Atlantic Fleet Integrated Logistics Overhaul Activity in Jacksonville FL. There he led his team in life-cycle logistics management and support of 32 Navy Ships.



## Danielle Lagana

Danielle recently joined the Southeast Coast Inventory and Monitoring Network as a Student Conservation Association intern. She grew up in Hartford, Connecticut and attended Emory University in Atlanta, GA where she earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Studies. For the next year, she will be working with the Network implementing wildlife monitoring protocols throughout the Southeast Network including small mammals, birds, reptile

communities, and various plant communities. Danielle is excited about her internship with the Network and is thankful for the opportunity to contribute to the National Park Service.



## Doug Hoffman

Doug joined the Cumberland Island National Seashore staff as the park wildlife biologist on July 10. Prior to his arrival Doug spent 1-1/2 years as a biologist for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources working in the western part of the state. He also served 15 years with the Wildlife Services program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, operating throughout Georgia and other Southeastern states. No stranger to Cumberland Island, Doug's first experience here was back in 1988, assisting with University of Georgia research on the island's feral horse population. More recently, Doug has made regular trips to the island, beginning in 2000 to assist with feral hog management and sea turtle projects. A native

Georgian, he has a Masters of Science degree in Wildlife Management from the University of Georgia. The park is extremely fortunate to have acquired someone with Doug's knowledge, skills, and hardworking demeanor.



-John Fry  
Resource Manager

## Special Thanks!

On August 4th, 2006, Jonathan Lacey and the remaining members of the Valdosta State University Presidential Brass Quintet conducted a special volunteer performance at Sea Camp Dock after performing at Greyfield Inn earlier in the day for a Rotary benefit. Jonathan is the son of Valerie and Jerre Brumbelow.



Jonathan Lacey (yellow shirt) with the members of the Valdosta State University Presidential Brass Quintet

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# Thanks YCC's!

Cumberland Island National Seashore would like to thank all who made this year's Youth Conservation Corps such a great success. The 2006 Corps managed to log a total of 2,024 hours, mostly through painting such buildings as the YCC Kitchen, the Resource Management Office,

the first floor of the dorms, and the laundry house at the White Cottage. They also were successful in removing some exotic plant species such as bamboo, clearing Willow Pond Trail, repairing a bridge on Willow Pond Trail, assisting in an archeological dig, removing a fence and the repair and painting of the beach access markers. The consensus of the group was that they really enjoyed themselves and would like the opportunity to participate again in the future.



From left to right: Leader Mark Feine, Mandy Galloway, Kelly Nettles, Jamie Clark, Mitchell Miner, Drew Gombaski and Anthony Parker



YCC's Jamie Clark and Mitchell Miner paint the YCC Kitchen.

## “Farewell Mary...”

On Wednesday, August 27th, Cumberland Island National Seashore bid farewell to Budget Technician Mary Jones as she embarked on a new career with Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base. After spending nearly four years here at CUIS, Mary has accepted a job in their Accounts Receivable Department as an Accounting Technician. The Administrative Division would like to wish Mary the best of luck in her future endeavors and let her know that her skills will be missed. Mary would like to thank all Cumberland Island employees for making her tenure here a pleasurable one. Good luck, Mary!



Park staff gathered to show their appreciation.



Superintendent Jerre Brumbelow presents Mary with her arrowhead plaque signed by her fellow employees.



# VOLUN

## Good Memories Forge Future Opportunities For Others

Can you imagine a college credit class that calls for you to live on a coastal sea island for a few weeks to learn about Parks and Recreation Management? Well that's just what happened for East Tennessee State University Students, Dave Worth, Rob Abercrombie, Cory Goehring and Cindy Turner.

Associate Professor, Dr. Jason Davis, remembered with fondness, his summer as a college intern on Cumberland Island. He remembered the solace of the isolated beach, the quiet stillness of the forest, and the many stories of interesting people, places and events. He also remembered the challenges of managing the park to protect the resource and provide for meaningful visitor experiences. Davis' experience on Cumberland Island forged something so meaningful to him, that he has created an opportunity for his students to experience this special place and participate in "real learning". Davis and Park staff developed curriculum guidelines, secured credit for the course, planned logistics, developed training opportunities, assigned

Students stayed in the historic dorms and had an opportunity to shadow all divisions and discuss the varied roles and duties of each division in facilitating our preservation and protection mission. They also had the opportunity to attend interpretive programs, assist with Sea Turtle excavations, tour Plum Orchard Mansion and the African American Settlement, met several island residents, enjoy a field trip to Okefenokee Swamp, assist in two emergency operations, and participate in interpretive training and development. Students were also tasked with a number of project assignments which they successfully completed.

The park benefited by promoting our service and mission to the next generation of park stewards. Other benefits include the completed projects such as power point program on Wilderness, Exhibit and model of the dock community, upgrades to museum exhibits, invasive plant removal, volunteer outreach exhibit, a "dig-box" as component of an archeology lesson, and at least 130 historic books covered in archival paper. Students also conducted a total of four programs to the public.

This was a fantastic opportunity for students. They were able to gain valuable insights and "first hand" learning in regards to park operations, reflect on a number of different viewpoints and management proposals, interact with park staff and visitors, research and facilitate programs, and enjoy the beauty and enchantment of this special place. All in all students gained invaluable knowledge by participating in virtually every aspect of park operations. Students reflected that "the visiting public can't possibly understand the complexities of operating this place", and "we came in thinking that all rangers did was talk to people, and everyone at the park was a ranger" and "what an eye-opener to see that everyone plays such an important role in making this work., I had no idea that they do so much".



From left to right: Dr. Jason Davis, Cindy Turner, Dave Worth, Corey Goehring, and Rob Abercrombie

projects, and developed and evaluative tool, and conducted a two week "island class" for students.

# INTERPRETER!

## Museum Volunteers

Volunteers are often seen on the island serving in various capacities such as beach clean-ups, horse counts, invasive plant removal, cutting grass, or clearing trails. Many hours of volunteer time are logged for these projects. However, there are many volunteers who work diligently “behind the scenes” as it were at the Mainland Museum in downtown St. Mary’s. The museum is staffed entirely by volunteers, and is open from 1-4 daily. These volunteers primary focus is staffing the museum, so they are not often seen on the island.

Their contributions of time are vitally important to provide opportunities to the visiting public to appreciate the islands rich natural and cultural history, and the role of St. Marys in the War of 1812. Average visitation is between 200-300 a month and without volunteers we simply could not keep the doors open. Please take a moment of your time and visit the Mainland Museum, while there remember to Thank a Volunteer. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming part of our volunteer team, please stop by the museum for an application, or contact the volunteer program coordinator: **Ginger Cox at 912-882-4336 ext 257 or [ginger\\_hollingsworth-cox@nps.gov](mailto:ginger_hollingsworth-cox@nps.gov)**.

Mark your Calendars for the 2nd annual Cumberland Crafts to be held Tues Dec 5th and Wednesday Dec 6th, 10-2 at the Black Barracks. Come make a special Cumberland Island Holiday Decoration, enjoy cider, cookies and general holiday cheer.



Pauline Wentworth gives an outdoor presentation to the conference participants.

## Cumberland Hosts Teacher Workshop

The National Park Service supports national and regional educational goals through the “Parks as Classrooms” programs. These programs support the



Intpretive Ranger Ginger Hollingsworth-Cox and Visitor Use Assistant Pauline Wentworth address the teacher's workshop.

educational needs of the community and foster appreciation for our National Parks. Cumberland Island provides an important local resource in regards to coastal island ecology and Georgia history. A total of 14 teachers spent three full days on Cumberland Island where they were introduced to this “Parks as Classrooms” program. Most teachers attending were from Camden County, however some came from Chatham, and Glynn, and a few interested teachers inquired from Ohio.

Teachers earned two (PLU’s) Professional Learning Units for attending the class and enjoyed exposure to the marsh, forest, and beach ecosystems on the island, as well as the many layers of cultural history through numerous learning activities. These activities can then be used either on an island field trip or in the classroom. Teachers were provided with Cumberland Island Curriculum Guides, Island DVD, numerous handouts and informational brochures, posters, and canvas bags which they decorated with island motifs.

-Ginger Hollingsworth-Cox  
Interpretive Tanger

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# Maintenance Division



Seacamp visitor center apartment has a new set of stairs. A “thank you” to maintenance workers Fred Forbes, Jeff Lewis and Mickey Bosworth for their excellent craftsmanship.



The well water systems on the Island have been recently rehabilitated by Park staff due to worn out components, compliance, and weather protection. Locations are Stafford campground, Stafford beach house, hunt camp, south cabin and the white cottage.



The rehabilitation of Plum Orchard Phase Two began in July and will continue throughout 2007. This phase includes lead paint remediation, stair repairs, paneling replacement, electrical upgrades, attic ductwork, plumbing, grout repairs, alarm installation, fire sprinkler system, plaster repairs, painting, repairing the north and south piazza, unclogging drains and installing an A.D.A. compliant elevator.

-David Casey, Facility Manager



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# Hand Protection Is A Good Deal!

There are a number of hazards your hands encounter every day on the job. Here are a few examples:

- Blades which can cut and amputate fingers or hands.
- Rough surfaces which can scrape the skin.
- Machinery which can pinch or crush fingers.
- Chemicals which can irritate or burn the skin.
- Chemicals which can be absorbed



into the body and cause poisoning.

- Heat and cold.
- Electric current which can give you a fatal shock.
- Bio-hazardous materials which can cause disease.
- Repetitive strain and impact which can cause injuries over a long period of time.

There are various ways to protect your hands, and gloves are probably the most common. Because we also wear many different kinds of gloves off the job, it's easy to take this kind of Personal Protective Equipment for granted.

It is imperative to wear the correct hand protection depending on the hazard; that is, cuts, burns, electric shock, chemicals and others. There are different kinds of gloves designed for special hazards, and your safety supervisor can advise you on which gloves to wear for your particular circumstance.

#### Examples are:

- Metal mesh gloves to prevent cutting injuries.
- Special rubber gloves for insulation against electricity.
- Leather gloves to protect against splinters and abrasion.
- Synthetic or rubber gloves for protection against

certain chemicals.

- Gloves made of materials such as aluminized fabric for protection against extreme temperatures.
- Besides gloves, there are finger guards, cuffs, mitts and other kinds of hand protection.

#### Here are some of the other ways to protect your hands:

Work with respect around machinery, hand tools and other hazards to avoid hand injuries. You should not wear gloves when working closely with moving machinery because of the danger of becoming entangled. Machine guards should always be kept in place - they are there for your protection.

Avoid repetitive strain on the tendons and nerves. Some ways to do this are by changing your grip and your wrist position, by using a tool which is designed to prevent injury, or by using a wrist support. You should also rotate tasks to give your hands and wrists a rest.

Leave your jewelry at home. Rings or watches catch in machinery and cause debilitating crushing injuries, amputations and electrocution.

Don't assume your hands are safe just because you have an office job. In the office, your hands are subject to many dangers ranging from slamming your fingers in a file cabinet drawer to amputations from paper cutters. The best defenses you have is the awareness of these and other dangers.

*The issue of hand protection is complex and will probably differ with each work circumstance. If you have any questions about how to protect your hands in your own work area, please ask.*



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- Safety Smart

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# CUIS Employee Saves Lives



From left to right: Employee Wayne Lagasse, Anne King and Richard Watson

On Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>, while operating the Park's 66' landing craft, the "Mocama", park employee Wayne Lagasse observed a man and a woman being ejected out of their 16' boat that had been running in the same easterly direction. The boat continued to run out of control around the boaters, nearly striking them twice. Lagasse lowered the landing craft ramp and assisted the two on board as the boat continued to run out of control in a tight circle at full throttle. Neither of the passengers had been wearing a PFD. Both persons were unharmed and the boat was monitored by park personnel until it ran out of gas. Good job, Wayne, and keep up the good work!

## Rip Currents!

Rip current speeds vary. Average speeds are 1-2 feet per second, but they have been measured as fast as 8 feet per second—faster than an Olympic swimmer!

Rip currents can be very narrow or more than 50 yards wide.

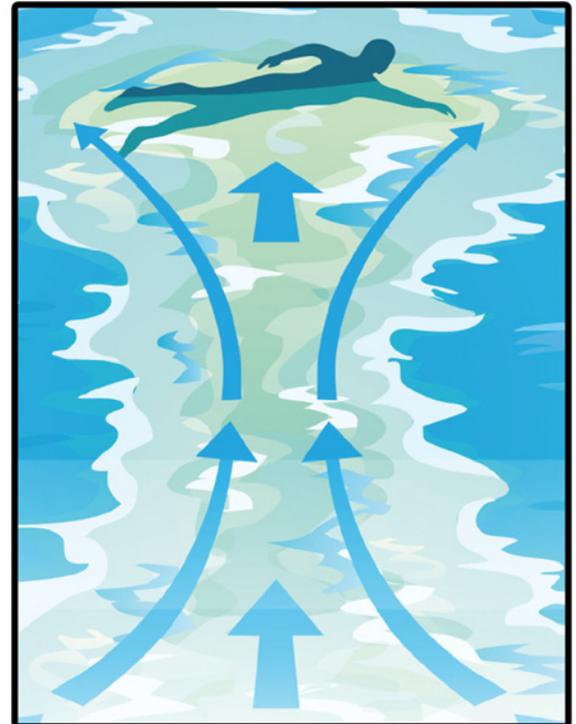
Sometimes rip currents end just beyond the line of breaking waves; however, they may continue to pull hundreds of yards offshore.

Rip currents do not pull people under the water—they pull people away from shore.

Rip currents are not "undertow" or "riptides." These improper terms should not be used to describe them.

If in doubt, don't go out!

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:  
[www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov)  
[www.usla.org](http://www.usla.org)



If caught in a rip current, swim parallel to the shoreline, until you feel the release of the rip current.

# Chiggers?!?

**Harvest mites** (Trombicula; also known as **chiggers**, red bugs, trombiculid mites, scrub-itch or berry bugs) are mites in the family Trombiculidae that live in berry patches, tall grass and weeds, woodland edges, pine straw, leaves, and tree bark. These relatives of spiders are nearly microscopic measuring 0.4 mm (1/100 of an inch) and have a chrome-orange hue.

The larval mites feed on the skin cells, but not blood, of animals, including humans. The six-legged parasitic larva feeds on a large variety of creatures



Microscopic picture of a chigger

including humans, rabbits, toads, box turtles, quail, and even some insects. After crawling onto their host, they inject digestive enzymes into the skin that break down skin cells. They do not actually “bite,” but instead form a hole in the skin and chew up tiny parts of the inner skin, thus causing severe irritation and swelling. The severe itching is accompanied with red pimple-like bumps (papules) or hives and skin rash or lesion on a sun-exposed area. For humans, itching usually occurs after the larvae detach from the skin.

After feeding on their hosts, the larvae drop to the ground and become nymphs, then mature into adults which have 8 legs and are harmless to humans.

Contrary to popular belief, the larvae do not burrow deep into the skin and live there, and neither do

coverings such as fingernail polish kill the chigger per se. Rather, the larvae pierce the skin and inject powerful enzymes that digest cellular contents, which become liquified and are consumed by the larvae.

## Treatment and prevention

If you have been bitten by chiggers, try to not scratch the affected regions. Scratching could scrape off chigger larvae,

but may also cause increased irritation by breaking the skin and leaving it vulnerable to a more serious

infection. The most effective way of removing chiggers is by taking a hot shower and washing the affected areas with mildly hot water and soap, as soon as possible after exposure or possible exposure.

Chiggers seem to affect warm covered areas of the body more than drier areas. Thus the sock covered ankles, shoe covered feet, behind the knees, and crotch areas should be carefully cleaned.

To avoid being afflicted by chiggers, always wear tight weave, protective clothing and long pants. Spray insect repellent on your skin for further protection. Application of repellent to the shoes and lower pants is helpful. Staying on trails, roads, or paths can help prevent you from meeting chiggers, ticks spiders, snakes and other nuisances and dangers.



Chigger “bites”

- Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

# Carriage Stabilization



Surrey carriage before stabilization

Since March 7, 2006, Resource Management has been involved in a major effort to stabilize three historic carriages on exhibit in the museum storage facility. Horse drawn vehicles, such as these, are large complex artifacts that incorporate a variety of materials including wood, metal, rubber, and textiles as well as a number of different surface coatings. These historic carriages have been kept in sub-standard conditions on the second floor of the Dungeness Carriage House for decades. The years of weathering have left them suffering from dry rot, severe insect damage to their leather and fabric, as well as paint and metal deterioration.

Under the guidance of Harpers Ferry Conservation Center and Alan Levitan, a conservator of wooden objects, major improvements are already taking place such as the treatment of metal components with rust converter, and hot wax treatments. The surrey carriage has gotten new wheels constructed by the Witmer Coach Shop, and considerable paint consolidation. The park has contracted with Jennifer Zemanek, an upholstery conservator, to construct new seat cushions and stabilize the seat upholstery on the surrey carriage as well. Fred Forbes and Mickey Bosworth, the park's carpenters, are presently working on reconstructing the body of the two-seater wagon. On September 19<sup>th</sup> the last and major phase of the project is set to take place. Over a nine day period, Al Levitan will supervise the upholstery conservation and carpentry work both here and on the island.

This work represents the culmination of a four-year park effort, from project conception and conservation assessment to the funding and actual completion of the work.

As we celebrate this project's completion, work has been proposed to improve the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Carriage House. Improvement would include a reorganization of the objects, object consolidation, and plenty of cleaning. Plans are progressing to address the condition of the freight wagons and carriages that remain stored on the island.

-John Mitchell  
Museum Curator



The surrey carriage in mid-stabilization, awaiting its new upholstery

# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## CUIS Receives Assistance from Great Smoky Mountains Staff



Dan Nolfi

The Resource Management Division recently acquired a temporary addition to the feral hog control program on Cumberland Island. Dan Nolfi, a Wildlife Biological Technician from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, has accepted a two-month detail (August – September). Dan has a variety of experiences in feral hog management techniques and will be a valuable asset to our ongoing efforts to keep the Cumberland hog population in check.

## 2006 Turtle Nesting Season Update



Turtle Techs Lisa Dlugolecki and Christa Hardy.

The Cumberland Island turtle nesting season has been a busy one. The first nest was discovered on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Since then 541 crawls have been recorded and a total of 325 nests have been documented. For comparison, Cumberland had 232 nests in 2005 and 53 nests in 2004. The peak of nesting on Cumberland is normally mid-June. Eggs have an incubation period of approximately 60 days. Currently the turtle techs are busy monitoring nests and recording data on hatching success. We have 165 nests that have hatched thus far and produced approximately 16,500 hatchlings. Speaking of turtle techs, a new SCA intern joined the “turtle patrol” in early August. Caroline Reddy replaced Christa



Caroline Reddy

Hardy, whose internship ended recently. Please join the Resource Management division in welcoming Caroline to the park when you see her. Lisa Dlugolecki, the original “turtle girl” will continue to monitor the 2006 season until it ends later this fall. Besides work on the beach, the techs also provide educational programs to Cumberland campers once weekly at Sea Camp. They also give weekly presentations at Greyfield for their guests.

Turtle strandings (dead or injured turtles washed up on the beach) have been very low this year. So far Cumberland has recorded 39 turtles. There were 106 strandings recorded for 2005 and 103 in 2004 on Cumberland. The lower number recorded this year is likely due to a significantly reduced number of shrimp boats working off the Cumberland shore. In addition to this, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources coastal law enforcement section has undergone recent changes in command and enforcement policy which may have led to increased scrutiny on the proper use of turtle exclusion devices. Statewide, Georgia has recorded 84 strandings this year, quite a bit less than 173 total in 2005 and 217 in 2004.



Lisa Dlugolecki with one of the turtles.

-Doug Hoffman  
Wildlife Biologist

# Administration

## OpenSeason

Health Benefits open season will be November 13 through December 11, 2006. The Office of Personnel Management has signed contracts with ten carriers to provide dental and vision benefits to Federal employees. For further information: [http://www.opm.gov/News\\_Events/](http://www.opm.gov/News_Events/)

## Employees:

As you will see in this issue of the *Mullet Wrapper*, our Administrative Division bid farewell to Budget Technician **Mary Jones** on September 1. Mary had worked here since October of 2002, and did an admirable job not only as our park's budget guru, but she was the driving force of the Employee's Association as well. She single handedly purchased the snacks and drinks that are sold in the offices and she deposited the funds collected. We wish her much success in her new position! And, now welcome to our new Budget Technician **Gary Head**. He began on August 14, so he had some valuable time working with Mary learning the basics of the intricate details of the park's budget and the various facets of budget formulation and tracking. He is an asset to our Division and has also taken over the role of the Employee's Association Director! Hooray for Gary!!

## Uniforms

The last day to purchase uniforms this fiscal year has

passed and the VF Solution website is closed for uniform orders until after new fiscal year begins.

Recent uniform changes have included shirts and pants in new fabrics. As a result, the colors are somewhat different. The new green is called "Earth Green". Also, VF Solutions has introduced a poly rayon fabric for our shirts due to complaints about discoloring and ill fits. A few other changes are: the front button on brush pants has been changed to a grommet and buttons on pockets have been removed in favor of Velcro. Fleece is used to replace knit and acrylic on knit caps. It was proposed that the current backcountry hiker boot be replaced by a boot with better technology and a lighter more flexible version of the current hiker boot.

## Uniform Wear Standards

- They must be clean and neat at the beginning of the workday.
- They must not be frayed and particular attention should be paid to collar points and cuffs.
- They must be free from excessive wear, including worn areas, shiny spots, holes or missing buttons.
- They must be free of offensive odor.
- They must be clean and free of spots, stains, soil or any other foreign substance.
- They must not be faded.
- They must be free from pilling
- All items should be ordered [or altered to] sizes that prevent excessive tightness or bagginess.

Personal adornments must not be worn with the uniform: tattoos, jewelry, pins, button, fingernail polish, body piercing and elective modifications.

Until next time. ....  
*julie*



# Hints from Helton

## Screen Saver Lock

I have noticed periodically how users will leave their workstation without any regard to maintaining database security. This is done by not having their workstation set up to be password protected upon the reactivation of one's workstation after it has gone into a "screen saver" mode. This is very easy to correct and insures that our database remains secure. If you have not already done so, please set up your workstation to password protect in resuming the use of your workstation.

You can do this by...

1. Right click on your desktop
2. Click on "Properties"
3. Click on the "Screen Saver" tab.
4. Ensure that the box next to "On resume, password protect" is checked.



## 2006 IT Security Awareness Training

I want to thank everyone for their prompt response in taking the 2006 IT Security Awareness Training. We succeeded with 100% compliance to the training. Division chiefs, let me remind you that any employee coming on board must take this training before access to our network is granted.

## Cumberland Island Unveils New Website

In honor of Founders Day, celebrating the National Park Service's 90th birthday, all National Parks nationwide were responsible for creating a new website. I am proud to say that Cumberland Island was one of the first parks to have 100% compliance with the initiative as well as help the Southeast Region in becoming the only region to have 100% compliance before the unveiling on Founders Day. If you get a chance, take a look at the new website!

- Justin Helton  
Administrative Assistant

## Quote Corner:

Enthusiasm is the best protection in any situation.  
Wholeheartedness is contagious.  
Give yourself, if you wish to get others.

- David Seabury

# Upcoming TELNPS Courses:

September 25th  
1:30-3:30pmET

## "Conducting Administrative Investigations"

Course Code: SML6219

Last Day to Register: Sept. 24

This training is provided to supervisors and others who want to understand how to properly investigate employee misconduct issues. The course will also address employee rights during administrative investigations or disciplinary investigations. Topics of discussion will include: applying effective investigation techniques, investigating potential misconduct, and identifying relevant facts.

September 26th  
12:00-4:00pmET

## "Taking the Grief out of Administrative Grievances"

Course Code: SML6218

Last Day to Register: Sept 27

This course is designed to help supervisors understand the administrative grievances process and how to correctly handle employee grievances.

September 28th  
12:00-4:00pmET

## "Understanding the Revisions of DO#21"

Course Code: PAR5001

Last Day to Register: Sept 27

This class will introduce partnerships to the newly revised Director's Order #21 on Donations and Fundraising. The class will discuss some of the key changes made to DO#21 and the rationale behind the changes.

September 29th  
2:00-3:00pmET

## "An Invitation to NPS Fundamentals: Q&A"

Course Code: UNC0006A

Last Day to Register: Sept 28

The twelve-minute video followed by an interactive session with NPS Fundamentals staff, will answer many of your questions regarding about the NPS Fundamentals Training Program.

October 19th  
1:00-3:00pmET

## "Employee Due Process"

Functions and processes are examined to ensure proper employee due process when conducting employee investigations.

October 25th  
12:00-3:00pmET

## "PMIS III - Creating an Effective PMIS Entry"

Topics will include 1) understanding why you need to write a good PMIS entry 2) learn how to correctly complete the pieces of a PMIS entry and write a project narrative, and 3) understanding the importance of the status and completion reports.





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Island National Seashore  
P.O. Box 806  
St. Marys, GA 31558



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